

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 097992

EXCON

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: ESTC, COCOM, GW, UR

SUBJ GERMAN NUMERICAL CONTROL SYSTEMS TO USSR -

IL 1091

REFS: A. COCOM DOC(74)774

B. STATE 92987

1. DEL SHOULD FILE AN OBJECTION TO REF. A WITH EXPRESSION OF REGRET THAT IT WAS AN INADVERTENT US LICENSING OF SIMILAR EQUIPMENT IN 1973 WHICH SUGGESTED THAT EXPORT OF ADDITIONAL COMPUTERIZED NUMERICAL CONTROLLERS (CNC) WOULD BE APPROVED BY THE USG. US TECHNICAL EXPERTS ARE ATTACHED TO THE PROPOSITION THAT A STRATEGICALLY SIGNIFICANT TECHNOLOGICAL DEFICIENCY IN CNC SYSTEMS PERSISTS IN THE COMMUNIST COUNTRIES.

2. WITH REGARD TO THE SPECIFIC CONSIDERATIONS PUT FORWARD IN PARAGRAPH 5 REF A, DEL MAY WISH TO RESPOND AS FOLLOWS:

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(A) US EXPERTS DISAGREE THAT CNC SYSTEMS SPECIALLY DESIGNED FOR FLAME CUTTING MACHINES CANNOT BE USED FOR METAL REMOVAL MACHINERY. THEY BELIEVE THAT ONLY MODIFICATION OF THE DRIVE SYSTEM AND DIFFERENT SOFTWARE WOULD BE REQUIRED TO CONVERT THE CONTROL TO METAL REMOVAL.

(I) US EXPERTS CONTEND THAT THE EXPANSION OF THE COMPUTER STORAGE (MEMORY) CAPACITY CAN BE EASILY ACCOMPLISHED.

(II) US TECHNICIANS CONCEDE THAT THE SIMULTANEOUS CONTROL OF MORE THAN 2 AXES WOULD REQUIRE AN ENTIRELY DIFFERENT INTERPOLATOR OR A SECOND INTERPOLATOR. HOWEVER, US OBJECTIONS HAVE BEEN RELATED TO THE EXPORT OF CNC ITSELF REGARDLESS OF THE NUMBER OF AXES. THE FACT THAT THE INTERPOLATOR IS HARDWIRED DOES NOT AFFECT THE NATURE OF THE CONTROL WHICH REMAINS A CNC SYSTEM. IN FACT USE OF HARDWIRED INTERPOLATORS IS COMMON TO A NUMBER OF US-MADE CNC SYSTEMS.

(III) US EXPERTS AGREE THAT THE SOFTWARE FOR THE COMPUTER INCORPORATED INTO A FLAME CUTTING SYSTEM IS NOT TRANSFERRABLE TO METAL REMOVAL MACHINERY, BUT THEY STATE THAT APPROPRIATE SOFTWARE OF A STRATEGIC NATURE CAN BE DEVELOPED AND SUBSTITUTED.

(IV) US EXPERTS CONCUR WITH THE GERMAN ANALYSIS BUT POINT OUT THAT SUCH ARRANGEMENT IS NOT UNUSUAL. MANUFACTURERS BUILD THEIR SYSTEMS WITH VARIOUS OPTIONS TO ENABLE MODIFICATION FOR APPLICATION TO AS MANY TYPES OF MACHINE TOOLS AS POSSIBLE.

(5)(B) US EXPERTS CONSIDER THAT THE SINUMERIK 580 CNC SYSTEMS WOULD PROVIDE NEW KNOW-HOW TO THE EAST BECAUSE THEY BELIEVE THAT THE BROCHURES FROM THE LEIPZIG FAIR DO NOT ESTABLISH THAT THE BLOC HAS AS YET DEVELOPED A VIABLE CNC CAPABILITY. RUSH

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